

REMARKS

Claims 3 through 16, 19 through 21, and 24 through 27 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 17, 18, 22 and 23 were previously canceled. Claims 24 through 27 are added by the present amendment.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has allowed claims 3 through 6 and 19.

In section 4 of the Office Action, claims 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,594,526 to Mori et al. (hereinafter "the Mori et al. patent"). Applicants clarified a feature of claims 20 and 21 that is neither disclosed nor suggested by the Mori et al. patent.

Claim 20 provides for an illumination system. The illumination system includes, *inter alia*, an optical element having a first raster element on a support structure and a second raster element on the support structure.

The Mori et al. patent discloses a first lens element 510 and a second lens element 520 (col. 7, lines 43 – 47). The Office Action suggests that the first and second lens elements of the Mori et al. patent are descriptive of the first and second raster elements of claim 20. However, in the Mori et al. patent, first lens element 510 is in a first lens group and second lens element 520 is in a second lens group (col. 7, lines 43 – 47 and FIG. 9). Thus, in the Mori et al. patent, the first and second lens elements are **in different lens groups**. Consequently, the Mori et al. patent does not disclose an optical element having a first raster element **on a support structure** and a second raster element **on the support structure**, as recited in claim 20. Hence, the Mori et al. patent does not anticipate claim 20.

Claim 21 provides for an illumination system. Similarly to the illumination system of claim 20, the illumination system of claim 21 includes, *inter alia*, an optical element

having a first raster element on a support structure and a second raster element on the support structure. As such, claim 21, for reasoning similar to that provided in support of claim 20, is not anticipated by the Mori et al. patent.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 102(b) rejection of claims 20 and 21.

In section 5 of the Office Action, claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,737,137 to Cohen et al. (hereinafter "the Cohen et al. patent"). As mentioned above, Applicants clarified an aspect of claim 21. This clarification distinguishes claim 21 over the Cohen et al. patent.

The Cohen et al. patent discloses a first mirror 11 and a second mirror 12 (col. 4, line 40). The Office Action suggests that the first and second mirrors of the Cohen et al. patent are descriptive of the first and second raster elements of claim 21. However, in the Cohen et al. patent, the first and second mirrors are **set apart from one another** (FIGS. 3 and 4). Consequently, the Cohen et al. patent does not disclose an optical element having a first raster element **on a support structure** and a second raster element **on the support structure**, as recited in claim 21. Therefore, the Cohen et al. patent does not anticipate claim 21.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 102(b) rejection of claim 21.

As mentioned above, Applicants amended claims 20 and 21 to recite a feature that is neither described nor suggested by the art of record. The amendment to claims 20 and 21 does not narrow the meaning of any term of the claims, and as such, the doctrine of equivalents should be available for all of the elements of all of the claims.

Applicants added claims 24 through 27 to even further provide the claim coverage that Applicants appear to deserve based on the prior art that was cited by the Examiner. A

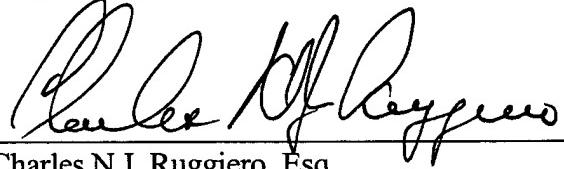
favorable consideration that also results in the allowance of claims 24 through 27 is earnestly solicited.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims presented in this application patentably distinguish over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,



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